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Forty-ninth session
THIRD COMMITTEE

ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

Note by the Secretariat

Allocation of items

1. The agenda items allocated by the General Assembly to the Third Committee are listed in the letter dated 23 September 1994 from the President of the Assembly to the Chairman of the Third Committee (A/C.3/49/1). Background information on those items may be found in the annotations to the agenda (A/49/100). A list of documents submitted under the various agenda items allocated to the Third Committee is set out in an addendum to the present document (A/C.3/49/L.1/Add.1*).

Programme of work

2. The suggested programme of work annexed to the present document has been prepared bearing in mind paragraph (b) of rule 99 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, General Assembly resolution 45/175 of 18 December 1990 on the rationalization of the work of the Third Committee and General Assembly decision 48/431 of 20 December 1993 on the organization of work of the Third Committee and biennial programme of work of the Committee for 1994-1995. Other relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the Assembly, the organizational arrangements agreed upon by the Assembly at the outset of its current session (A/49/250) and the availability of documentation as well as past experience in the utilization of conference services have also been taken into account.

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* To be issued.

Length of statements

3. In view of the limited number of meetings available to the Committee during the session, it is suggested that the time-limit for statements be set at 10 minutes, with the exception of statements being made by the spokesmen of groups of delegations, which would be set at 15 minutes.

Conference facilities and meeting arrangements

4. Taking into account the availability of conference services for the Main Committees of the General Assembly, an average of six formal meetings a week have been scheduled for the Third Committee. Unless otherwise specified, meetings will be held at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. In this connection, the General Assembly has reminded delegations that punctuality is of the utmost importance in the interest of ensuring an effective and orderly completion of work and achieving necessary economies for the United Nations. As decided by the General Assembly, the requirement of the presence of at least one quarter of the members of the Third Committee to declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed has been waived.

Working Group of the Third Committee

5. The Committee is reminded that, at its 59th meeting during the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly, on 15 September 1994, the Third Committee decided that the work of the Working Group should continue during the forty-ninth session under agenda item 100 (b). In order to permit full participation of all representatives, meetings of the Working Group will, to the maximum extent possible, not take place at the same time as meetings of the Third Committee itself. One meeting on 13 October and one meeting on 19 October have been allocated to the Working Group. Subsequent meetings will be announced.

Informal inter-sessional consultations of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit for Social Development

6. The Committee is further reminded that, at its 16th meeting, on 2 September 1994, the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit for Social Development decided to request its Chairman and Bureau to organize informal inter-sessional consultations during the week of 24 October, in New York, in the framework of the General Assembly. The Third Committee is being requested to suspend its meetings during that week in order to enable the informal inter-sessional consultations to take place with the full participation of all States.

Conclusion of the work of the Committee

7. Bearing in mind the allocation of the number of meetings available to the Third Committee, it is proposed that the Third Committee set a target date of 15 December for the conclusion of its work. In view of the decreased availability of conference services, it is highly unlikely that conference services can be counted on after that date.

Annex

PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

Date	Meeting	Item to be considered
Tuesday, 4 October	a.m.	Election of the Bureau Organization of work
Week of 10-14 October		
Tuesday, 11 October	a.m. and p.m.	Item 93: a/ Elimination of racism and racial discrimination Item 94: a/ Right of peoples to self-determination Introductory statements and general discussion
	6 p.m.	Deadline for closure of list of speakers on items 93 and 94
Friday, 14 October	a.m and p.m.	Item 93) General discussion Item 94) (continued)
Week of 17-21 October		
Monday, 17 October	a.m and p.m.	Item 93) General discussion Item 94) (concluded)
	6 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 93 and 94
Wednesday, 19 October	a.m.	Item 95: Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family Introductory statements and general discussion
	1 p.m.	Deadline for closure of list of speakers on item 95
Thursday, 20 October	a.m. and p.m.	Item 95 General discussion (continued)

Date	Meeting	Item to be considered
Week of 24-28 October		
PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: INFORMAL INTER-SESSIONAL OPEN-ENDED CONSULTATIONS b/		
Week of 31 October- 4 November		
Monday, 31 October	a.m.	Item 95 General discussion (continued)
Tuesday, 1 November	a.m.	Item 95 General discussion (concluded)
	1 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 95
Wednesday, 2 November	a.m. and p.m.	Item 98: International drug control Introductory statements and general discussion
	1 p.m.	Deadline for closure of list of speakers on item 98
Thursday, 3 November	a.m. and p.m.	Item 98 General discussion (continued)
Friday, 4 November	p.m.	Item 98 General discussion (concluded)
	6 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 98
Week of 7-11 November		
Tuesday, 8 November	p.m.	Item 99: Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions
	6 p.m.	Deadline for closure of list of speakers on item 99

Date	Meeting	Item to be considered
Wednesday, 9 November	a.m. and p.m.	Item 99 General discussion (continued)
Thursday, 10 November	a.m. and p.m.	Item 99 General discussion (concluded)
	6 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 99
Friday, 11 November	a.m. and p.m.	Item 101: Promotion and protection of the rights of children
		Introductory statements and general discussion
	1 p.m.	Deadline for closure of list of speakers on item 101
Week of 14-18 November		
Monday, 14 November	a.m.	Item 101 General discussion (concluded)
	p.m.	Item 102: Preparation for and organization of the United Nations Year for Tolerance
		Introductory statements and general discussion
	1 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 101
	6 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 102

Date	Meeting	Item to be considered
Tuesday, 15 November	a.m. and p.m.	Item 103: Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People
		Introductory statements and general discussion
	1 p.m.	Deadline for closure of list of speakers on item 103
Wednesday, 16 November	a.m.	Item 103 General discussion (concluded)
	p.m.	Item 100 c/ Human rights questions: (a) Implementation of human rights instruments
		Introductory statements and general discussion
	1 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 103
	6 p.m.	Deadline for closure of list of speakers on item 100 (a)
Thursday, 17 November	a.m.	Item 100 (a) General discussion (continued)

Date	Meeting	Item to be considered
Week of 21-25 November d/		
Monday, 21 November	a.m.	Item 100 (a) General discussion (concluded)
	p.m.	Item 100 (b): Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms
		Item 100 (c): Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives
		Item 100 (d): Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action
		Introductory statements and general discussion
	1 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 100 (a)
	6 p.m.	Deadline for closure of list of speakers on item 100 (b), (c) and (d)
Tuesday, 22 November	a.m. and p.m.	Item 100 (b), (c) and (d) General discussion (continued)
Wednesday, 23 November	a.m. and p.m.	Item 100 (b), (c) and (d) General discussion (continued)
Friday, 25 November	a.m. and p.m.	Item 100 (b), (c) and (d) General discussion (continued)

Date	Meeting	Item to be considered
Week of 28 November-2 December		
Monday, 28 November	a.m. and p.m.	Item 100 (b), (c) and (d) General discussion (continued)
Tuesday, 29 November	p.m.	Item 100 (b), (c) and (d) General discussion (continued)
Wednesday, 30 November	a.m. and p.m.	Item 100 (b), (c) and (d) General discussion (concluded)
Thursday, 1 December	a.m.	Item 97: Advancement of women Introductory statements and general discussion
	1 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 100 (b), (c) and (d)
	6 p.m.	Deadline for closure of list of speakers on item 97
Friday, 2 December	a.m. and p.m.	Item 97 General discussion (continued)
Week of 5-9 December		
Monday, 5 December	a.m. and p.m.	Item 97 General discussion (continued)
Tuesday, 6 December	a.m. and p.m.	Item 97 General discussion (concluded)
	6 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 97
Wednesday, 7 December	p.m.	Item 96 Crime prevention and criminal justice Introductory statements and general discussion
	6 p.m.	Deadline for closure of list of speakers on item 96
Thursday, 8 December	a.m.	Item 96 General discussion (continued)

Date	Meeting	Item to be considered
Friday, 9 December	a.m.	Item 96 General discussion (concluded)
	p.m.	Item 12: Report of the Economic and Social Council
		Introductory statements and general discussion
	1 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 96
	6 p.m.	Deadline for closure of list of speakers on item 12
		Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 12
Week of 12-16 December		
Monday, 12 December	a.m.	Introduction of all outstanding draft proposals
Thursday, 15 December	a.m. and p.m.	Adoption of all outstanding draft proposals

Notes

a/ See General Assembly decision 48/431. Items 93 and 94 are to be discussed jointly. Delegations may make two separate statements, i.e., one on each item, if they so wish.

b/ The Preparatory Committee for the World Summit for Social Development, at its second session, decided to request the Chairman and the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee to organize informal inter-sessional consultations during the week of 24 October, in New York, in the framework of the General Assembly. The Third Committee is being requested to suspend its meetings during that week in order to enable the informal inter-sessional consultations to take place with the full participation of all States (see A/49/24/Add.1*, decision 2/3).

c/ See General Assembly decision 48/431. Sub-item (a) is to be discussed separately; sub-items (b), (c) and (d) are to be discussed jointly. Delegations may make one statement under sub-item (a) and two statements under sub-items (b), (c) and (d), but should not make two statements on any one sub-item.

d/ 24 November is the Thanksgiving Day holiday.

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* To be issued.